



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MORA COUNTY

Special Meeting – March 4, 2025 – 4:30 p.m.

Mora Independent School District Board Room – 10 Ranger Rd, Mora, NM 87732

1. Call to Order

Chairman George Trujillo called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and saluted the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

3. Roll Call

Deputy Clerk Elena Duran polled the board: **Commissioner George A. Trujillo** – Present; **Commissioner John H. Trujillo** – Present; **Commissioner Veronica M. Serna** – Present. A quorum is present.

4. Approval of Agenda

Interim County Manager Joseph Weathers recommended approval of the agenda striking item 18 Closed Session. **Commissioner G. Trujillo** stated I won't strike it in case we need to go into closed session. **Interim Manager Weathers** stated I recommend approval as presented. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion and asked about item 11 and why it is on the agenda again if it was approved at a previous meeting. **Attorney Ernestine Cruz** recalled a prior meeting at the library where the Chairman tasked her, Mr. Weathers, and the Vice-Chair to investigate the smoke damage claim. They visited the FEMA office, where Joycelyn revealed two smoke damage claims: one filed by former County Manager Joseph Garcia in early April of last year, and another submitted by Singleton and Schriber. Joycelyn advised consolidating these into a single claim. Attorney Cruz noted that this matter did not appear on the agenda from the previous week and offered to discuss it further when the agenda item was addressed.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated *all in favor on a roll call vote*: **Commissioner V. Serna** – yes; **Commissioner J. Trujillo** – yes; **Commissioner G. Trujillo** – yes. *Motion carried.*

5. Discussion/Action: Approval of Minutes

a. January 24, 2025-Regular Meeting

Interim Manager Weathers stated I have reviewed the minutes and recommend approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to approve the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

b. **January 30, 2025-Special Meeting**

Interim Manager Weathers stated I have reviewed the minutes and recommend approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to approve the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

c. **February 12, 2025-Special Meeting**

Interim Manager Weathers stated I have reviewed the minutes and recommend approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to approve the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

6. **Discussion/Action: Resolution to Adjust the Final Budget**

Finance Director Ruthie proposed several budget adjustments. These included \$175,000 capital appropriations grant for Sheriff's Office radio communications, per diem increases for the planning and zoning department and manager's office totaling \$6,000 and utilizing \$224,336 from the SB 6 LGIP interest fund to pay annual invoices for law enforcement and multi-line insurance. Additionally, she requested moving \$900,000 from small County's assistance to fund full-time firefighter and EMT positions over three years. Resolution 14 involved increasing the interest and principal budgets for a \$1.24 million general obligation bond to cover a \$49,049.59 shortfall. Furthermore, she requested reimbursing the road department \$196,227.82 for construction invoices paid from the wrong fund and utilizing \$185,000 from the SB 6 LGIP interest funds to cover a shortfall in county attorney fees. (See further details in the attached resolutions). **Commissioner V. Serna** stated this is what happens when we get invoices late, we end up affecting another budget.

Attorney Cruz stated these invoices were provided before the end of the last fiscal year, and they were not paid until the following fiscal year. But I do understand what you're saying.

Interim Manager Weathers stated Ruthie will email you resolution 12, correct resolution 14 and provide resolution 16. I recommend approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner G. Trujillo** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote:*

Commissioner V. Serna – yes; **Commissioner J. Trujillo** – yes; **Commissioner G. Trujillo** – yes. *Motion carried.*

7. Discussion: Update by Procurement Officer regarding Pending Procurement

Procurement Officer Adelita Encinias stated we have issued two RFPs, for owner's representative services and wood processing services. The owners representative RFP relates to the work performed by Charlie Otero previously, and then the wood processing is for wood processing services. These RFPs will be advertised from February 28, 2025, through March 28, 2025, with the deadline for submitting responses on Monday, March 31 at 2:00 p.m. Interested parties can access the full RFP details on the County website, or they may contact me directly for further information. A public opening of the bids will be held on March 31, 2025, at 3:00 pm in the Mora County Finance Office. We have upcoming RFPs within the next two weeks, which will be the disaster recovery RFP and then the legal for County Attorney. The RFPs are intended to be advertised in the Las Vegas Optic by next Friday and posted on the website as well.

Deputy Manager Aragon stated I received notification from Michael Lujan. He looked into the grant information that I had submitted, and he informed us that the grant is still active, so now I'm trying to make contact with somebody so that I can execute the grant, and we can proceed with the wood processing.

Attorney Cruz stated there are some other RFPs that have been discussed that Adelita, and her team are going to be rolling out soon, related to the EDA funding, non-construction, Felicity has already circulated a draft for her amendment.

Pursuant to the rules that apply to RFPs that are found in the New Mexico Administrative Code there's not a public opening, I just wanted to make that clear. I was going to be talking to Adelita about that when I see her tomorrow, so that the advertisement can be corrected, so that it reflects that there's not a public opening.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated I entertain a motion to go into a 15-minute break.

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to enter a 15-minute break. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna* – yes; **Commissioner J. Trujillo** – yes; **Commissioner G. Trujillo** – yes. *Motion carried.*

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated I entertain a motion to reconvene regular session.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to reconvene regular session. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor. Motion carried.* The time is 5:10 p.m.

8. Discussion/Action: Approval of Resolution Authorizing Pay Increase for Mora County Volunteer Wildland Firefighters

Interim Manager Weathers stated the Fire Administrator and myself have gone through this item, and we make a recommendation that the Commission approve a \$5 increase which will change the pay from \$20 to \$25 per hour.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

9. Discussion/Action: Recommendations by FEMA and DHSEM regarding Pending Public Assistance Projects

Deputy Manager Aragon explained that FEMA meetings have focused on addressing and correcting Requests for Information (RFIs) to advance projects towards obligation, including the bridge project. They are essentially taking over the role Thompson previously held in moving projects forward to obligation.

Interim Manager Weathers recommended approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion and stated so all of these ones will all go through the Stafford Act PA first and if it gets denied we then go through the claims process? **Deputy Manager Aragon** stated the first phase of this is just to get the projects obligated as they were initially approved and scoped out. Then there'll be other phases of the project as we go forward, but the goal now is to encumber the money and get the RFIs answered, and then we'll move to the next phase as to how the mitigation and the expanding of the scope is going to work once we get to the actual design of the roads.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated *all in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

10. Discussion/Action: Approval of Senate Bill 6 Project(s) for Wilson & Company

Deputy Manager Aragon stated the County recently entered a 90-day agreement with Wilson and Company to help organize and potentially design obligated SB 6 projects. To give Wilson a focused project within this timeframe, I suggest prioritizing the Encinal road system project (678073), part of the \$11.35 million in obligated funds. This would allow them to assess the alignment of engineering design and costs with SB 6 assessments and cost estimates, providing a clear direction for their work.

Interim Manager Weathers recommended approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion and stated I just wanted to ask because it says here, approval of Senate Bill 6 projects. Is there a particular project that we're going to have them move forward on? **Deputy Manager Aragon** stated Encinal B019, road system is the one that we've identified as probably the easiest one that we can move forward at this point.

Attorney Cruz emphasized the importance of keeping Wilson and Company involved in meetings with DHSEM and FEMA to assist with their expertise. **Aragon** agreed, suggesting Wilson focus on the Commission's priority road, A005, during the remaining

agreement period, rather than addressing RFIs for unobligated projects. He believes prioritizing A005 and then analyzing the B019 road system's design and costs will reveal the accuracy of FEMA's assessment and guide future approaches to road improvements with DHSEM and FEMA. The goal is to determine if the \$42 million assessment is sufficient or if additional funding will be required. Aragon hopes this initial assessment will clarify whether FEMA's estimates are accurate and provide a path forward for improving other road systems.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

11. Discussion/Action: Consolidation of Two Smoke Damage Claims Submitted to FEMA

Interim Manager Weathers recommended approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. **Attorney Cruz** stated, to Commissioner Serna's earlier question, this particular item was on the agenda for last Tuesday's meeting, but that meeting was canceled. So that's why you're voting on this item now. The one from last week was to submit a claim to New Mexico Counties, because that's a prerequisite to be able to proceed with PA. The item that's before you today is merely consolidating the claim that had previously been filed by Joseph Garcia early April of 2024 with the existing claim that's been submitted by Singleton Schreiber. Attorney Cruz mentioned speaking with Crystal Burke of Singleton Schreiber, who agreed to consolidate Joseph Garcia's April claim

with the Singleton Shriber claim. If the Commission approves, Attorney Cruz will draft a letter for Manager Weathers' signature to formalize with the claim office.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated *all in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

12. Discussion/Action: Approval of Contract for Administrative Services with NCNMEDD for Community Development Block Grant Program (EMS Project)

Interim Manager Weathers stated as it states, this is the contract for the administrative services that the gentleman from Las Vegas had before. The contract has been reviewed by Tina, and I recommend approval.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion and stated just for clarification; this is for the EMS administration? **Interim Manager Weathers** stated yes.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

13. Discussion/Action: Approval of Extension Request for 2022 Regional Recreation Centers/Quality of Life Grant (22-ZG1023-9)

Interim Manager Weathers recommended approval.

Commissioner J. Trujillo made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion and stated I just want to clarify that this is for an extension to 2026, is that correct? **Interim Manager Weathers** stated yes, you are granting me the opportunity to submit the extension.

Commissioner G. Trujillo stated *all in favor on a voice vote*: **Commissioner V. Serna** – yes; **Commissioner J. Trujillo** – yes; **Commissioner G. Trujillo** – yes. *Motion carried.*

14. Discussion/Action: Approval for Grant Agreement Amendment No. 7 Between DFA and Mora County Project No. 20-C-RS-I-01-G-02

Interim Manager Weathers recommended approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote*: **Commissioner V. Serna** – yes; **Commissioner J. Trujillo** – yes; **Commissioner G. Trujillo** – yes. *Motion carried.*

15. Discussion/Action: Authorize Preparation and Signature on Requisite documents related to "Certificate as to Project Site, Rights-of-Way, and Easements" as Provided by the Economic Development Administration

Interim Manager Weathers recommended approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. **Attorney Cruz** presented items 15, 16, and 17, documents from Felicity Fonseca needed for the EDA to proceed with the complex's first-floor construction. These forms require authorization for her to complete them and for management to sign. Item 15 is a certificate about the project site. Item 16 is a title opinion, requiring Cruz to review four years of public records to confirm Mora County's ownership of the property with a fee simple title. Item 17 is an agreement and mortgage, which Cruz believes is unnecessary as she's unaware of a mortgage on the property, making it an alternative to item 16. Approving these items authorizes the preparation of these documents, allowing management to sign and Felicity to process them, moving the project forward. **Commissioner G. Trujillo** stated *all in favor on a voice vote*:

Commissioner V. Serna – yes; **Commissioner J. Trujillo** – yes; **Commissioner G. Trujillo** – yes. *Motion carried.*

16. Discussion/Action: Authorize Preparation and Signature of "Covenant on Purpose, Use and Ownership" as Provided by the Economic Development Administration

Interim Manager Weathers recommended approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

17. Discussion/Action: Authorize Preparation and Signature of "Agreement and Mortgage" as Provided by the Economic Development Administration (If necessary, in the alternative to Item No. 16)

Interim Manager Weathers recommended approval. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *approve* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

18. Closed Session: Personnel Matter Subject to Section 10-15-1(H)(2)

Interim Manager Weathers recommended tabling the item. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** made a motion to *table* the item under the recommendation of the Manager. **Commissioner V. Serna** seconded the motion. *All in favor on a voice vote: Commissioner V. Serna – yes; Commissioner J. Trujillo – yes; Commissioner G. Trujillo – yes. Motion carried.*

19. Other Informational Items

No additional informational items were discussed.

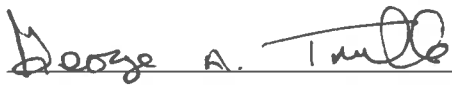
20. Signing of Approved Documents

The Commission signed the approved documents.

21. Adjournment

Commissioner V. Serna made a motion to *adjourn*. **Commissioner J. Trujillo** seconded the motion. *All in favor. Motion carried.* The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

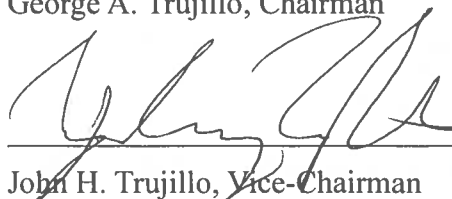
MORA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION



George A. Trujillo, Chairman



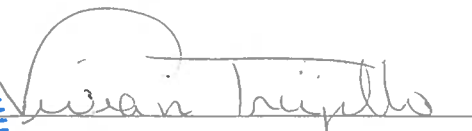
Veronica M. Serna, Member



John H. Trujillo, Vice-Chairman



ATTEST



Vivian L. Trujillo, County Clerk

